

Cyprus opened her doors to Americans evacuating Lebanon. On July 15th, a short-time after the Israeli reaction started, the Cypriot government declared its readiness to assist efforts for the evacuation of U.S. citizens and other nationals fleeing Lebanon.

The government set up a committee to organize the reception of thousands of evacuees—between 5,000 and 10,000 were expected just in the first week of the evacuation. Keeping in mind that the Republic of Cyprus does not have more than 750,000 inhabitants, this is an enormous task.

Thousands of American citizens have already been evacuated to Cyprus. Many of them breathed a big sigh of relief! We received reports about the extraordinary hospitality offered to our evacuees. The Cypriot people obviously know about the needs of people suffering under war and terror due to their own painful history of war and separation.

Besides Cyprus, our Turkish friends also offered their support. For the purpose of the evacuation of American citizens they provided their Mediterranean seaport Mersin. From there our evacuees can easily be transported to the U.S. military base of Incirlik. The Turkish offer is also an expression of our deep and strong alliance.

Today, we should express our hope that the excellent cooperation of the last several weeks will be continued.

It is also time to recognize the responsible roles the Turkish and the Cypriot governments are playing in their efforts to stabilize the Middle East, and encourage them to proceed.

Let us keep in mind: Real friendship is proven in times of crisis, and we can be appreciative that it does. Let us support this process sending a message of gratitude to our friends in Cyprus and Turkey!

Thank you Cyprus, thank you Turkey!

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER  
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT  
ON S. 250, CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2006*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as the Portland region and our global economy demands a highly trained and skilled workforce the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act will become even more important. Congress, in this instance, understands the important role technical and skilled education plays in preparing our workforce for the future.

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act is a good federal investment, which will increase the role of math, science and technology in career and technical education programs and encourages the expanded use of technology by teachers and faculty. It strengthens the relationship between academic and technical instruction and

ensures access for students in secondary and postsecondary programs across the country.

Thousands of Oregonians have lost their jobs over the past several years and many are holding down jobs that pay less and provide fewer benefits. I have heard from businesses and job seekers about the challenges facing the region. High-tech manufacturing represents about 30 percent of the jobs in the Portland region, however, we do not have enough skilled labor. We desperately need to be preparing and training our students for these types of skilled jobs. It is expected by 2020, the U.S. will experience a shortage of up to 12 million college-educated workers.

This bill is a step in the right direction to help prepare Oregon for a 21st century workforce.

UNITED STATES AND INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROMOTION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 26, 2006*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5682) to exempt from certain requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 a proposed nuclear agreement for cooperation with India:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 5682, the "United States and India Nuclear Cooperation Promotion Act of 2006."

The close relationship between the U.S. and India is crucial to world stability. We share a common system of government, common constitutions, and common values. The two nations work closely together on a wide range of issues including building peace and security in South Asia, increasing bilateral trade and investment, meeting global environmental challenges, fighting disease, and eradicate poverty.

India is an important partner in the ongoing struggle to fight terrorism. Just last week the House of Representatives passed a resolution, which I cosponsored, expressing sympathy for the people of India in the aftermath of the deadly terrorist attacks in Mumbai on July 11, 2006. The resolution also expressed our solidarity with the government and people of India in fighting and defeating terrorism in all its forms.

Today, we have a historic opportunity to advance and deepen relations with India with the passage of the bill before us. Under this pact, India would open up its civilian nuclear facilities to international inspections. This legislation contains important conditions including that the President must determine that the International Atomic Energy Agency and India are working to ensure that there are more inspections of nuclear facilities and that India is working with the United States to prevent the spread of enrichment and reprocessing technology.

India is a vital friend and ally and by approving this bill we will make that relationship even stronger.

I commend Chairman HYDE and Ranking Member LANTOS for their leadership on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

COMMENDING THE DOMESTIC COPPER INDUSTRY

**HON. TIM HOLDEN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the domestic copper industry and to thank them for the tremendous services that they are providing to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as the men and women serving in the United States military at home and overseas.

The copper industry has long stood as one of the cornerstones of Pennsylvania's manufacturing base. With a number of producers and fabricators operating across the Commonwealth, including Heyco Metals in my district, I have had to opportunity to learn of the far-reaching benefits of copper. The Department of Defense has also recognized the benefits of incorporating copper and copper alloys into military applications. As such, the military and copper industry have established a cooperative relationship to advance research and development in a wide breadth of areas including medical technology and industrial systems. Copper research has produced crucial advances for the American military in land based, shipboard, and aerospace applications and has done so in a cost-effective manner.

I am encouraged that the Army, through the Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC), is undertaking research on how best to utilize copper alloy's intrinsic antimicrobial capacities in healthcare settings, including military outfits at home and overseas. The Copper Antimicrobial Research Program and the Copper Air Quality Program involve retrofitting surgical units and HVAC systems in critical DoD facilities—including VA hospitals and clinics, mobile medical units, shipboard medical facilities—with copper surfaces and components. Research has shown that these surfaces are able to quickly inactivate infection causing pathogens. Copper offers the potential to notably improve air quality and reduce the risk of cross-contamination between staff and patients in critical care units.

These projects are examples of the potential that collaborative efforts hold for the military, but it is important to also recognize that continued innovation helps sustain the copper industry and the manufacturing sector as a whole. Heyco Metals, a fabricator of non-ferrous metals in Reading, PA, has been serving an important role in the copper industry. It is also appropriate to recognize the Copper Development Association (CDA), of which Heyco Metals is a key member. CDA serves as the development, engineering, and information services arm of the copper industry. I commend both Heyco Metals and CDA for their passionate commitment to expand the market for copper applications.

In closing, I am grateful to both my colleagues and the military for recognizing the crucial benefits that the copper industry has to offer.